

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF NEW JERSEY

**IN RE: JOHNSON & JOHNSON TALCUM
POWDER PRODUCTS MARKETING, SALES
PRACTICES, AND PRODUCTS LIABILITY
LITIGATION**

MARY BEST,

Plaintiff,

v.

**JOHNSON & JOHNSON, and JOHNSON &
JOHNSON CONSUMER INC., et al.**

Defendants.

**MDL No. 2738 (FLW) (LHG)
JUDGE FRED A. L. WOLFSON
MAG. JUDGE LOIS H. GOODMAN**

COMPLAINT AND JURY DEMAND

Civil Action No: 24-cv-4323

DIRECT FILED ACTION

SHORT FORM COMPLAINT AND JURY DEMAND

The Plaintiff named below files this *Short Form Complaint and Demand for Jury Trial* against Defendants named below by and through the undersigned counsel. Plaintiff incorporates by reference the allegations contained in *Plaintiffs' Master Long Form Complaint* in *In re: Talcum Powder Products Marketing, Sales Practices, and Products Liability Litigation*, MDL No. 2738 in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey. Plaintiff files this Short Form Complaint as permitted by Case Management Order No. 1 of this Court.

In addition to those causes of action contained in *Plaintiffs' Master Long Form Complaint*, where certain claims require specific pleadings and/or amendments, Plaintiff(s) shall add and include them herein.

IDENTIFICATION OF PARTIES

Identification of Plaintiff(s)

1. Name of individual injured due to the use of talcum powder product(s): Mary Best.

2. At the time of the filing of the specific case, Plaintiff is a citizen of Springfield, Robertson County, Tennessee.

3. As a result of using talcum powder products, Plaintiff suffered personal and economic injur(ies) that are alleged to have been caused by the use of the products identified in Paragraph 16 below, but not limited to, the following:

☒ injury to herself

☐ injury to the person represented

☐ wrongful death

☐ survivorship action

☒ economic loss

☐ loss of services

☐ loss of consortium

other: _____

Identification of Defendants:

4. Plaintiff is suing the following Defendants (please check all that apply)¹:

☒ Johnson & Johnson

☒ Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc.

Additional Defendants:

☒ Other(s) Defendant(s) (please specify): LLT Management, LLC f/k/a LTL Management, LLC., Johnson & Johnson Holdco (NA) Inc., Janssen Pharmaceuticals, Inc., and Kenvue, Inc.

¹ If additional Counts and/or Counts directed to other Defendants are alleged by the specific Plaintiff(s) as to whom this *Short Form Complaint* applies, the specific facts supporting these allegations must be pleaded by the Plaintiff(s) in a manner complying with the requirements of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and the Defendants against whom they are alleged must be specifically identified on a separate sheet of paper attached to this *Short Form Complaint*.

JURISDICTION & VENUE

Jurisdiction:

5. Jurisdiction in this Short Form Complaint is based on:

☒ Diversity of Citizenship

☐ Other (The basis of any additional ground for jurisdiction must be pled in sufficient detail as required by the applicable Federal Rules of Civil Procedure):

6. District Court(s) and Division (if any) in which venue was proper where you might have otherwise filed this Short Form Complaint absent the direct filing Order entered by this Court and to where remand could be ordered by the Judicial Panel for trial: U.S. District Court, Middle District of Tennessee, Nashville Division.

CASE SPECIFIC FACTS

7. Plaintiff currently resides in Springfield, Robertson County, Tennessee.

8. At the time of the Plaintiff's diagnosis with a talcum powder product(s) injury, Plaintiff resided in Springfield, Robertson County, Tennessee.

9. The Plaintiff was diagnosed with a talcum powder product(s) injury in Nashville, Tennessee on August 4, 2020.

10. To the best of Plaintiff's knowledge, Plaintiff began using talcum powder product(s) on or about the following date: 1988 and continued the use of talcum powder products through about the following date: 2018.

11. The Plaintiff purchased talcum powder products in the following state(s): Texas.

12. Plaintiff used the following talcum powder products:

☒ Johnson & Johnson's Baby Powder

☒ Shower to Shower

CAUSES OF ACTION

13. Plaintiff hereby adopts and incorporates by reference the *Master Long Form Complaint and Jury Demand* as if fully set forth herein.

14. The following claims and allegations asserted in the *Master Long Form Complaint and Jury Demand* are herein adopted by reference by Plaintiff(s):

- ☐ Count I: Products Liability – Strict Liability – Failure to Warn (Against Imerys Talc)
- ✓ Count II: Products Liability – Strict Liability – Failure to Warn (Against the Johnson & Johnson Defendants)
- ☐ Count III: Products Liability – Strict Liability – Defective Manufacturer and Design (Against Imerys Talc)
- ✓ Count IV: Products Liability – Defective Manufacturer and Design (Against the Johnson & Johnson Defendants)
- ✓ Count V: Breach of Express Warranties (Against the Johnson & Johnson Defendants)
- ✓ Count VI: Breach of Implied Warranty of Merchantability (Against the Johnson & Johnson Defendants)
- ✓ Count VII: Breach of Implied Warranty of Fitness for a Particular Purpose (Against the Johnson & Johnson Defendants)
- ☐ Count VIII: Negligence (Against Imerys Talc)
- ✓ Count IX: Negligence (Against the Johnson & Johnson Defendants)
- ☐ Count X: Negligence (Against PCPC)
- ✓ Count XI: Negligence Misrepresentation (Against the Johnson & Johnson Defendants)
- ✓ Count XII: Fraud (Against the Johnson & Johnson Defendants)
- ☐ Count XIII: Fraud (Against PCPC)
- ✓ Count XIV: Violation of State Consumer Protection Laws of the State of Indiana (Against the Johnson & Johnson Defendants).
- ☐ Count XV: Fraudulent Concealment (Against Imerys Talc)

✓ Count XVI: Fraudulent Concealment (Against the Johnson & Johnson Defendants)

□ Count XVII: Fraudulent Concealment (Against PCPC)

✓ Count XVIII: Civil Conspiracy (Against All Defendants)

□ Count XIX: Loss of Consortium (Against All Defendants)

✓ Count XX: Punitive Damages (Against All Defendants)

✓ Count XXI: Discovery Rule and Tolling (Against All Defendants)

□ Count XXII: Wrongful Death (Against All Defendants)

□ Count XXIII: Survival Action (Against All Defendants)

□ Furthermore, Plaintiff(s) assert the following additional theories and/or State Causes of Action against Defendant(s) identified in Paragraph nine (9) above. If Plaintiff(s) includes additional theories of recovery, to the extent they require specificity in pleadings, the specific facts and allegations supporting these theories must be pled by Plaintiff(s) in a manner complying with the requirements of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for relief and judgment against Defendants of compensatory damages, punitive damages, interest, costs of suit, and such further relief as the Court deems equitable and just, and as set forth in the Master Long Form Complaint as appropriate.

JURY DEMAND

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury as to all claims in this action.

Dated: March 28, 2024

Respectfully submitted:



MICHAEL GOETZ, ESQUIRE
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Counsel for Plaintiff

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS

Mary Best

(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Springfield, TN
(EXCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES)

(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)
Morgan & Morgan, Complex Litigation Group, One Tampa City Center,
7th Floor, 201 N Franklin St., Tampa, FL 33602, (813-223-5505)

DEFENDANTS

Johnson & Johnson, and Johnson & Johnson Consumer Inc.,

County of Residence of First Listed Defendant Middlesex
(IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CASES ONLY)

NOTE: IN LAND CONDEMNATION CASES, USE THE LOCATION OF
THE TRACT OF LAND INVOLVED.

Attorneys (If Known)

II. BASIS OF JURISDICTION (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

☐ 1 U.S. Government Plaintiff

☐ 2 U.S. Government Defendant

☐ 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)

☒ 4 Diversity (Indicate Citizenship of Parties in Item III)

III. CITIZENSHIP OF PRINCIPAL PARTIES (Place an "X" in One Box for Plaintiff and One Box for Defendant)

	PTF	DEF
Citizen of This State	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 1
Citizen of Another State	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 2
Citizen or Subject of a Foreign Country	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 3

Incorporated or Principal Place of Business In This State

Incorporated and Principal Place of Business In Another State

Foreign Nation

PTF	DEF
<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4
<input type="checkbox"/> 5	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
<input type="checkbox"/> 6	<input type="checkbox"/> 6

IV. NATURE OF SUIT (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

CONTRACT

☐ 110 Insurance

☐ 120 Marine

☐ 130 Miller Act

☐ 140 Negotiable Instrument

☐ 150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment

☐ 151 Medicare Act

☐ 152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans (Excludes Veterans)

☐ 153 Recovery of Overpayment of Veteran's Benefits

☐ 160 Stockholders' Suits

☐ 190 Other Contract

☐ 195 Contract Product Liability

☐ 196 Franchise

TORTS

PERSONAL INJURY

☐ 310 Airplane

☐ 315 Airplane Product Liability

☐ 320 Assault, Libel & Slander

☐ 330 Federal Employers' Liability

☐ 340 Marine

☐ 345 Marine Product Liability

☐ 350 Motor Vehicle

☐ 355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability

☐ 360 Other Personal Injury

☐ 362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice

PERSONAL INJURY

☐ 365 Personal Injury - Product Liability

☒ 367 Health Care/Pharmaceutical Personal Injury Product Liability

☐ 368 Asbestos Personal Injury Product Liability

PERSONAL PROPERTY

☐ 370 Other Fraud

☐ 371 Truth in Lending

☐ 380 Other Personal Property Damage

☐ 385 Property Damage Product Liability

FORFEITURE/PENALTY

☐ 625 Drug Related Seizure of Property 21 USC 881

☐ 690 Other

LABOR

☐ 710 Fair Labor Standards Act

☐ 720 Labor/Management Relations

☐ 740 Railway Labor Act

☐ 751 Family and Medical Leave Act

☐ 790 Other Labor Litigation

☐ 791 Employee Retirement Income Security Act

IMMIGRATION

☐ 462 Naturalization Application

☐ 465 Other Immigration Actions

BANKRUPTCY

☐ 422 Appeal 28 USC 158

☐ 423 Withdrawal 28 USC 157

PROPERTY RIGHTS

☐ 820 Copyrights

☐ 830 Patent

☐ 835 Patent - Abbreviated New Drug Application

☐ 840 Trademark

SOCIAL SECURITY

☐ 861 HIA (1395ff)

☐ 862 Black Lung (923)

☐ 863 DIWC/DIWW (405(g))

☐ 864 SSID Title XVI

☐ 865 RSI (405(g))

FEDERAL TAX SUITS

☐ 870 Taxes (U.S. Plaintiff or Defendant)

☐ 871 IRS—Third Party 26 USC 7609

OTHER STATUTES

☐ 375 False Claims Act

☐ 376 Qui Tam (31 USC 3729(a))

☐ 400 State Reapportionment

☐ 410 Antitrust

☐ 430 Banks and Banking

☐ 450 Commerce

☐ 460 Deportation

☐ 470 Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations

☐ 480 Consumer Credit

☐ 490 Cable/Sat TV

☐ 850 Securities/Commodities/Exchange

☐ 890 Other Statutory Actions

☐ 891 Agricultural Acts

☐ 893 Environmental Matters

☐ 895 Freedom of Information Act

☐ 896 Arbitration

☐ 899 Administrative Procedure Act/Review or Appeal of Agency Decision

☐ 950 Constitutionality of State Statutes

V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" in One Box Only)

☐ 1 Original Proceeding

☐ 2 Removed from State Court

☐ 3 Remanded from Appellate Court

☐ 4 Reinstated or Reopened

☐ 5 Transferred from Another District (specify)

☐ 6 Multidistrict Litigation - Transfer

☒ 8 Multidistrict Litigation - Direct File

VI. CAUSE OF ACTION

Cite the U.S. Civil Statute under which you are filing (Do not cite jurisdictional statutes unless diversity):
28:1332 pl (28:1332 Diversity-Product Liability)

Brief description of cause:
New Member Case In Re: Johnson & Johnson, et al., Products Liability Litigation

VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:

☐ CHECK IF THIS IS A CLASS ACTION UNDER RULE 23, F.R.Cv.P.

DEMAND \$

CHECK YES only if demanded in complaint:
JURY DEMAND: ☒ Yes ☐ No

VIII. RELATED CASE(S) IF ANY

(See instructions): JUDGE Hon. Freda L. Wolfson DOCKET NUMBER MDL 2738

DATE

03/28/2024

SIGNATURE OF ATTORNEY OF RECORD

/s/ Michael Goetz

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

RECEIPT #

AMOUNT

APPLYING IFP

JUDGE

MAG. JUDGE